

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/807,530

Examiner

Charlie Peng

Applicant(s)

PARSONS, ALAN T.

Art Unit

2883

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 24 July 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-45.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20070227.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with M. Carroll on 27 February 2007.

Claims 15 and 40 of the application have been amended as follows:

Claim 15 (examiner amended): An optical tube assembly comprising:

a tube, the tube having an interior surface;

at least one optical waveguide, the optical waveguide being disposed in the tube;

and

a dry insert, the dry insert is disposed adjacent to the at least one optical waveguide and comprises a tape and at least one filament attached to the tape, thereby forming a plurality of loops with the filament on the tape, wherein either the tape or the at least one filament has a water-swellaable component and the dry insert is compressed at least 10 percent for coupling the at least one waveguide to the interior surface of the tube.

Claim 40 (examiner amended): A method of manufacturing an optical tube assembly comprising:

paying off at one optical waveguide;

placing a dry insert adjacent to the at least one optical waveguide, thereby forming a dry core, wherein the dry insert comprises a tape and at least one filament attached to the tape so that the at least one filament forms a plurality of loops on the tape; and

extruding a tube around the dry core.

Reasons for Allowance

Independent claims 1, 15, 29 and 40 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art of record such as US 4,763,983 teaches using a yarn layer 16 wrapped inside a rubber tape 18 to cushion optical fibers in a fiber cable, but not the at least one filament attached to the tape that forms a plurality of loops on the tape. This design of filament forming loops on the tape provides cushioning and water-blocking functionalities for optical fibers without negatively affecting optical propagation properties of the optical fibers. It is the examiner's position that prior art taken alone or in combination failed to disclose or render obvious the plurality of loops formed on the tape, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claims.

Claims 2-14, 16-18, 20-39 and 41-45 are allowed as dependent claims of the allowed claims.

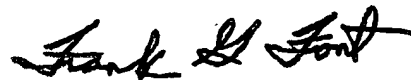
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charlie Peng whose telephone number is (571) 272-2177. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am - 6 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Font can be reached on (571) 272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Frank G. Font
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

cyp